



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

Hixon et al.

**Serial No.:** 10/718,852

**Filed:** November 20, 2003

**For:** DIE CUTTING SYSTEM,  
COMPONENTS THEREOF, AND  
METHODS

**Confirmation No.:** 1905

**Examiner:** S. Choi

**Group Art Unit:** 3724

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2916-4842.1US

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

3/2/2005

Date

Rachael M. Harris

Signature

Rachael M. Harris

Name (Type/Print)

**RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT  
AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is being filed in response to the species election requirement dated December 2, 2004, the one-month shortened statutory period for response to which expired on Monday, January 3, 2005. This communication is being filed with a petition for a two-month extension of time and the appropriate fee.

Amendments to the claims are set forth in the **listing of the claims**, which begins on page 2 of this paper; and

**Remarks** appear on page 13 of this paper.